

The ACP Wisconsin Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee has prepared issue guides on ACP health policy positions.

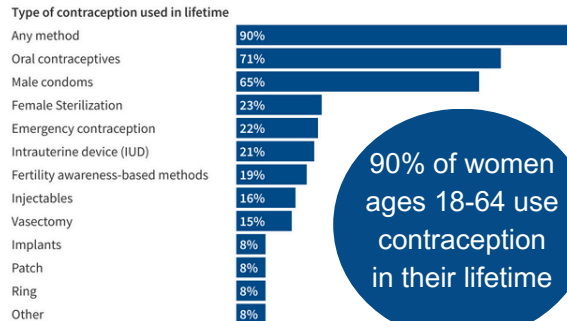
How does access to contraception improve health?

- Prevents unintended pregnancy
- Reduces the rate of teen pregnancy
- Reduces maternal complications and pregnancy-related death
- Reduces unsafe abortions
- Barrier contraception reduces transmission of STDs

Figure 11

Women's Use of Different Contraceptive Methods

Share of females ages 18-64 in the U.S who say they have used any of the following methods of contraception at some point in their lifetime



90% of women ages 18-64 use contraception in their lifetime

Note: Respondents could respond with more than one contraceptive method.
Source: KFF Women's Health Survey 2022

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What can be done to protect access to contraception?

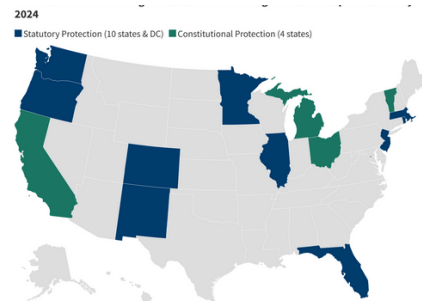
Many states have passed legislation to enshrine access to contraception as a right under the law. In Wisconsin, a "Right to Contraception Act" was introduced in the 2023 legislative session but did not make it to a vote.

- Ask your legislative candidates if they would support a Wisconsin "Right to Contraception Act" (SB 365/ASA1-AB610 in 2023) or similar legislation
- Find out if federal candidates support the federal "Right to Contraception Act" (H.R. 4121/S 4381)
- Educate patients and community members about the difference between contraception and abortion. Misconceptions exist that emergency contraception (Plan B) and IUDs can be used to abort a fetus.

What threats exist to accessing contraception?

In the 2022 Dobbs decision, the U.S. Supreme Court removed the national right to access abortion care. In that ruling, a concurrent opinion discussed the possibility of using similar jurisprudence to reverse prior decisions that recognize the right to access contraception.

Some states have moved to limit access to contraception by limiting public funds for the use of contraception, or by trying to apply abortion bans to certain methods of contraception.



14 States and D.C. have Legal Protections for contraception as of May 2024

<https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/>

Contraception is healthcare!